

March 26, 2007

# H.Res. 266 – Supporting the goals and ideals of Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day.

#### Floor Situation

H.Res. 266 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced, TODAY, March 26, 2007, by Representative Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH) and has not been considered by any committee in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress.

H.Res. 266 is being considered on the floor of the House on March 26, 2007.

# **Summary**

This legislation resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Supports the goals and ideals of Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day;
- Acknowledges the diligent efforts of individuals and groups who promote the importance of social work and who are observing Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day;
- Encourages the American people to engage in appropriate ceremonies and activities to further promote awareness of the life-changing role of social workers;
- Recognizes with gratitude the contributions of the millions of caring individuals who have chosen to serve their communities through social work; and,
- Encourages young people to seek out educational and professional opportunities to become social workers.

### Background

March is the Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day is March 27, 2007.

The Department of Labor describes the work of social workers as follows:

"Social workers help people function the best way they can in their environment, deal with their relationships, and solve personal and family problems. Social workers often see clients who face a life-threatening disease or a social problem, such as inadequate housing, unemployment, a serious illness, a disability, or substance abuse. Social workers also assist families that have serious domestic conflicts, sometimes involving child or spousal abuse." (U.S. Department of Labor: Social Workers)

The Department of Labor estimates that social workers held about 562,000 jobs in 2004. About 9 out of 10 jobs were in health care and social assistance industries, as well as State and local government agencies, primarily in departments of health and human services. The following table shows 2004 employment by type of social worker:

Child, family, and school social workers	272,000
Mental health and substance abuse social workers	116,000
Medical and public health social workers	110,000
Social workers, all other	64,000

(Source: U.S. Department of Labor)

#### Cost

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not scored this legislation.

## **Staff Contact**

For questions or further information contact Luke Hatzis at (202) 226-2302.